(b) whether the instant increase in the ground water level there has been the cause of weakening of the foundations of houses and dampness of walls;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what efforts are being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: (a) to (d) There is no report of damages caused to buildings due to rise in ground water levels in Jodhpur city. However, weakening of foundations and dampening of walls have been observed in localised areas of the city where water has seeped in the basement of the buildings. The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, the Regional Remote Sensing Centre, Jodhpur, the Central Ground Water Board and the Ground Water Department of Rajasthan Government have taken up a study to find out reasons for rise in the water level in the city.

Disiltation of Tanks in Cauvery Basin

308. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued circular to the State Government of Karnataka, stating not to disilt the tanks in Cauvery Basin;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any reference in the interview order of Cauvery Tribunal restraining disiltation of tanks in Cauvery Delta;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Cauvery Tribunal has not passed an order restraining the distillation of tanks then, if so, what are the reasons for the Central Government to issue such circular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and

(b) In order to enable the World Bank to complete the preparation of the project concept document in a time bound manner and to avoid delay in signing the agreement, Government of India suggested to Government of Karnataka that tanks falling within the Cauvery basin may not be included under the Karnataka Tank Improvement Project. To this, the Government of Karnataka informed to the Government of India that they have since decided to delete the tanks falling in the Cauvery basin from the proposed project.

(c) to (e) The Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal through its Interim Order dated 25-6-1991 has directed the State of Karnataka not to increase its area under irrigation by the waters of river Cauvery beyond existing 11.2 lakh acres. This area includes an area of 2.93 lakh acres under minor irrigation. The Government of Karnataka can implement any project in Cauvery basin which envisages addition to the existing irrigated area in the basin either with the consent of the co-basin States or with the specific approval of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal.

World Bank's Assistance to Disiltation of Tanks

309. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government and State Governments have been spending a lot of amount to disilt tanks, rivers, dams and seas for the better use of water and to maintain the storing capacities of dams and also for good maintenance;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) what will be the advantages and disadvantages in case the tanks are disilted;

(d) whether the World Bank has come forward to give Financial assistance for disilting of tanks in Karnataka; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c)